# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:425
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004
ATROCITIES ON MINORITIES IN BANGLADESH
Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar

**Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has received any information regarding atrocities being committed on minorities particularly Hindus in Bangladesh;

(b) if so, whether any talks have been held with the Bangladesh Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the outcome of the said talks ?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHMED)

(a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in parts (a) to (c) of the reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 425 for answer on 07.07.2004

(a) to (c) Reports of violence and atrocities against minorities in Bangladesh are received from time to time. The primary responsibility for the protection of the life, liberty and property of all citizens of Bangladesh, including minorities, rests with the Government of Bangladesh. However, it has been conveyed at the highest levels of the Government that such incidents have an adverse impact on public sentiment in India, which in turn have the potential of affecting bilateral ties, and should be strictly dealt with. The Government of Bangladesh have stated that they are committed to safeguarding minority rights; that many of the incidents are not communal in nature and arise from disputes of a political or private nature and that stern action would be taken against the culprits. The High Commission of India in Dhaka continues to monitor the situation closely and is in touch with the Government of Bangladesh in this regard.